

Boston, Jan. 18. 1867.

Dear Mr. Garrison:

4 I am almost loth to take these two beautiful books from you, - yet your friendly inscription has made them irretrievably mine, - and that I cannot be otherwise than well pleased with, on my own account; ~~and~~ yet, with the many demands on you, I almost seem to myself to be doing wrong to take from ^{you} what has cost so much. Let them stand, however, to mark an hour in our lives, when we are permitted to see that giant monster of Slavery, however tenacious of its vile and poisonous life, smitten to the ground by the indignation, scorn, & disgust of the world, and yielding up the last breath of its being amid throes which, disastrous to some victims, can only excite anew the contempt of mankind.

But for that infamous traitor, who,
under guise of ~~special~~ zeal for
those poor victims of the old oppression,
has managed to dishearten and bear
them down again into the depths of
affliction, our Country would now,
I believe, be in prosperous career to
a true unity, and an absolute
justice. That indeed it is now,
in spite of all Andrew Johnson, and
W. H. Seward his not less guilty
accomplices, have been able to effect.
A wonderful Providence has been over
our land, and by an outstretched
arm have we been guided. Will
it not lead us, all the journey through?

Thank you, with all my heart,
for these beautiful volumes of that true
and noble soul, John Greenleaf Whittier,
and for the wise & dearly-prized friendship

which has made them mine.

- It must have seemed a strange forgetfulness to you, that I made no mention of this your gift, when you were here on Wednesday. The fact is, I did not then know of it. George had handed me the parcel the afternoon before. Having a number of errands down in town, I took it, & another parcel, to my brother's store, & left them on his desk, meaning to call & take them; but came to my father's house by another way. On Wednesday I was prevented going for them; yesterday, because of the severity of the storm, I did not go down town at all; & so, only got them to-day.

I met Edmund Jackson ~~there~~ in State Street. He told ^{me} ~~you~~ - what possibly you know, - that the Court had finally given a decision on the points raised

against Francis Jackson's will. The legacies on the Woman's Rights question are set aside; - those on Antislavery & the Fugitives are confirmed; but, inasmuch as Slavery is no more, it is to be submitted, as a question, to certain competent persons to say to what nearest, kindred use the sums bequeathed shall be given. To aid in that decision, the opinion of F. J.'s Trustees is desired; and E. J. designs calling a meeting of these ^{Trustees} ~~Committee~~ before many days, to get their opinion on that point. I shall give whatever influence I possess to its appropriation in aid of that people, free, yet destitute of all worldly means, for whom Francis Jackson thought, felt, labored so much, as slaves.

With affectionate regard to
Mrs. Garrison & yourself, Yours ever,
Samuel May, Jr.